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The Million Man March

The Million Man March, held on October 16, 1995, in Washington, D.C., was a pivotal event in American history. Organized by Louis Farrakhan, the leader of the Nation of Islam, the march aimed to promote African American unity and family values. It drew an estimated 850,000 African American men to the National Mall, making it one of the largest demonstrations in Washington's history.

The march had several key objectives:

- **Unity and Revitalization**: It sought to address the social and economic issues facing African American communities and called for a renaissance of the black race.

- **Political Engagement**: Participants were encouraged to register to vote, leading to over 1.5 million black men registering to vote for the first time in the year following the march.

- **Community and Family Support**: The marchers took a public pledge to support their families, refrain from violence, and build black businesses and social institutions.

The event also featured speeches from prominent civil rights activists like Jesse Jackson, Rosa Parks,

and Maya Angelou, who called for a spiritual renewal and personal responsibility among African American men.

The Million Man March is remembered not only for its massive turnout but also for its impact on voter registration and the emphasis on community building and personal responsibility. It remains a significant moment in the history of the civil rights movement in the United States.